Shirley M. Sebright 1047 Crystal Lane **Springfield, OH 45502-9567** 



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## Shirley Sebright 1047 Crystal Lane Springfield, OH 45502

January 25, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to give your support to the Department of Justice and Microsoft. I think the government should leave Microsoft and Bill Gates alone and allow the company to get back to be the creative, innovative company it is. The Department of Justice had no business bringing the suit against Microsoft. This suit was more a political ploy brought about by Microsoft's competitors. This lawsuit sets a dangerous precedent in that the government is being used as a weapon against a competing company. This lawsuit also threatens the innovative and creative spirit of our country. What effect do you think this action has on those who have dreams of creating a product, but then see a very creative company being hounded? Yes, the company was aggressive, but business is aggressive. Microsoft did nothing more or less than what their rivals did.

Microsoft will ultimately be giving up its interfaces and protocols to other software developers so that they can more comprehensively write software for Windows. The company will also be held to a regimented licensing code that will ensure that computer makers are able to use the software they want with Windows. A Technical Committee will make sure these rules as well as others are followed.

Leave the company be. Give your support to this agreement.

Shirley Sebright